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CONFIDENTIAL 100-9748

SUBJECT: Loss of ☐ Covert Notebook in the USSR

1. Upon his return to Headquarters on 10 August 1959, ☐ reported that he had lost his covert notebook in the USSR sometime between 0830 and 1400 on 13 July 1959. ☐ had been briefed in Washington, D.C., during the period 3 June-8 June 1959 and ☐

2. ☐ stated that the last point at which he was certain the notebook was in his possession was at about 0830 on the morning of 13 July 1959 in ☐ room at the Hotel Siga in Riga. At this time, he recalled, he placed the notebook, a 3" x 5" black leather looseleaf variety, in the back left pocket of the trousers he was wearing at the time. At about 0845 ☐ boarded an Intourist bus ☐ for the ride to the Riga airport. Except for two Intourist guides, the only passengers on the bus were ☐ reported that he came in contact with no Soviets at the airport. At about 0930, together with the ☐ he boarded a two-engined conventional type Aeroflot plane for the flight to Lvov. Again, with the exception of the two Intourist guides, the only passengers on the plane were ☐ During the flight ☐ sat in a seat next to ☐ The plane arrived at Lvov at about 1230 and the group got off and waited in the airport administration building for about one half hour for a bus for the trip to the hotel. There were several Soviets milling around the administration building. ☐ reported talking to at least three Soviets at the airport. These appeared to be Ukrainians and passengers who were waiting to board planes. ☐ then boarded an Intourist bus together with the ☐ (no Soviet passengers on bus) for the ride to the Lvov Intourist Hotel. At the hotel the group had to wait around in the lobby, for about 20 minutes before being assigned rooms. The lobby was very small and crowded with the 24 chorus singers and their luggage as well as several Soviets. The first thing ☐ did upon arriving in his assigned room at about 1400, was to check for his notebook. Startled upon not finding it in his pants pocket, he immediately searched through all his clothing and luggage. When he still couldn't find it, he was struck with near panic. He rushed down to the lobby, looked around there, and then seeing the Intourist bus still parked in front of the hotel he minutely went through the bus without finding the notebook. He then hailed a cab on the street and rode out to the airport, where, without asking anyone's permission, he rushed out to the airstrip to look for the plane that had flown the chorus from Riga. Not finding the plane, he asked an official looking Soviet woman who came walking along the airstrip whether the plane from Riga was still at the airport. She replied that the plane had already gone. ☐ then went

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to the terminal building, looking around on the ground for the book as he walked. After searching the floor inside the building for about five minutes he took a cab back to the hotel. At the hotel he discussed the loss with

[] [] They decided there still remained the possibility that [] had left the notebook in [] room at the Hotel Riga.

[] left Riga on a later flight following behind the main body of the chorus.) When [] arrived in Lwow that evening, [] mentioned the lost notebook to him and asked him if he possibly had seen it in his room at the Hotel Riga.

[] replied that before leaving the Hotel Riga he had made a thorough check of his room to insure that he had left nothing behind, but he had seen nothing of the notebook.

3. Two days later, [] that he [] had also lost his notes somewhere in Lwow. [] was fairly certain that they were picked from his coat pocket on the night of 14 July 1959 while he sat next to an elderly Soviet female on a park bench in Lwow.

4. [] did not report the loss of the notebook to any Soviet nor was any mention made of the notebook to [] during the remainder of his stay in the USSR. He reported that he noticed no increase in surveillance during his last 11 days in the Soviet Union.

5. [] reported that as best he can remember the lost notebook contained the following:

- a. Notes made by him during his briefing in Washington, D.C. (There had been written with a pen that [] did not use again.)
- b. The following three addresses in Riga:

[]

[] had been asked to determine names of residents of the apartments if names were posted either in the apartment lobby or on the apartment door. He had been able to procure the name on the door of Apt. 1 (Apt. 11) only and had the name in his notebook opposite the address. He could not remember the name but he was fairly certain that it began with a "P.")

- c. On the other page of the sign above the door was the notation:

XII
Vaticen Radio

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- d. Other statistics and notes of an overt return (but obviously PT) that [] [] could not recall specifically.
 - e. In [] [] handwriting were numbers of railroad tank cars that had been observed outside an army camp near Riga.
 - f. A rough sketch of one of the streets on which was located one of the Riga apartment buildings. [] [] did not recall the specific address.)
 - g. Several telephone pole numbers (of poles along the train track from Leningrad to Riga).
6. [] [] was certain that the notebook contained no names of individuals he had met in Washington or telephone numbers or addresses where he had stayed while in Washington.
7. It was [] [] opinion that the notebook probably slipped out of his pants pocket and was left on the plane from Riga to Lwow. He felt fairly certain that neither the two Intourist guides that accompanied the chorus from the Riga Hotel to the Intourist Hotel in Lwow nor the Soviets that he had encountered both at the airport and at the hotel in Lwow had been in a position to pick the notebook from his pocket.
8. [] [] apologized for his carelessness (which he attributed to a last minute rush in preparation for the trip) in not following the instructions he had received during his briefing to either memorize the details of his briefing or else transcribe parts of it in some cryptic form that only he would understand.